

INCITS L1 Standards Program

L1 - Geographic Information Systems (GIS)

INCITS/L1 was established in 1993; it is accredited by the American National Standards Institute to develop US National Standards for GIS. It also represents the US as the US Technical Advisory Group for ISO TC211. L1 has completed work on Seven ANSI standards. TC211 has also supported the work on some 40 ISO TC211 projects; most of the standards generated by those projects will eventually be adopted as US National Standards through the INCITS committee.

Geographic Information Systems form a distinct class of information systems through their unique requirements for collecting, converting, storing, retrieving, processing, analyzing, creating, and displaying geographic data. The generic nature of GIS, organizing information by location, is interdisciplinary and not specific to any application.

The work of L1, Geographic Information Systems (GIS) consists of adopting or adapting information technology standards and developing digital geographic data standards. Digital geographic data standards are concerned with creating, defining, describing, and processing such data. This technical committee is the U.S. TAG to ISO/TC 211.

INCITS L1 Activities

1. Adoption of ISO/TC 211 Standards –

INCITS holds the U.S. TAG to ISO/TC 211, Geographic Information/Geomatics, with technical responsibilities assigned to L1, GIS.

The U.S. has/had the project leaderships for **fourteen** of the forty-one ISO/TC 211 work items. As many of these ISO/TC 211 work items become International Standards, L1, GIS will be making recommendations for adoption by the US.

Due to changes in the ISO/TC 211 programme of work a restructuring of ISO/TC 211, occurred at the Lisbon, Portugal Plenary in March 2001. The U.S. convenorship for the Framework and Reference Model WG1 and three other Working Groups were retired and four new Working Groups were established, these consisted of; Working Group 6 – Imagery, Working Group 7 – Information Communities, Working group 8 – Location Based Services, and Working Group 9 – Information Management.

2. North American Profile(s)-

Approach for cooperation between ANSI INCITS and CGSB-COG addressing the relationship between ANSI INCITS (International Committee on Information Technology and Standards) and the CGSB COG (Canadian General Standards Board – Committee on Geomatics) which is the equivalent national committee in Canada for the development of common geographic information standards bilaterally between Canada and the US.

3. Maintenance Program –

- Maintenance Plan - for information systems-codes-Identification of hydrologic units (ANSI X3.145)
- Maintenance Plan - for information systems - codes - Structure for the identification of counties and county equivalents of the United States and its outlying and associated areas for Information interchange (ANSI X3.31)

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- Maintenance Plan - for information systems - representation of the geographic point locations for information exchange (ANSI X3.61)
- Standard Spatial Data Standard for Facilities, Infrastructure, and Environment (SDSFIE), updates to NCITS 353
- Project 987-D: Spatial Data Transfer, ANSI INCITS 320:1998, Information Technology - Spatial Data Transfer, Standard is the official designation.

4. Standards Outreach INCITS Project: 1574-D–

Promote the awareness, adoption, and advocacy of ISO/TC 211 and ANSI standards in user communities.

- Newsletter: Should include theoretical musings on standards development, information on existing standards and their applications, as well as updates on federal, national and international standards as they are being developed.
- Graduate Student Involvement: Interested Graduate students may be interested in conducting thesis and dissertation research on standards issues. Presentations by those who work in standards given at various academic institutions with well-developed GIS programs would help to create awareness among students about the current level and potential of standards development.
- Workshops: Organization of standards workshops
- Presentations: Presentations to both federal and non-represented federal organizations, membership organizations and private companies. Participation in presentations/panels at Geography and GIS conferences.

5. ISO/TC 211 Working Groups/ Advisory Groups –

Working Group 4 Geospatial Services
Working Group 6 Imagery
Working Group 7 Information Communities
Working Group 8 Location Base Services
Working Group 9 Information Management
Advisory Group on strategy
Advisory Group on outreach
Advisory Group on web server interface
Terminology maintenance working group
Model Maintenance working group
ISO/TC 211/OGC co-ordination group (TOCG)
ISO/TC 204/TC 211 task group

6. ISO Metadata Extension(s) -

The purpose of this Technical Amendment is to provide a means by which a dataset compliant with Version 2.0 of the FGDC Content Standard for Digital Geospatial Metadata (CSDGM) can be compliant with the *ANSI adopted version of 19115*.

7. Projects

- Project 1107-L: Formal Liaison with X3H2, Database
- b. Milestones: N/A
 - c. Description: Close cooperation with X3H2, U.S. TAG to ISO/IEC JTC 1 /SC32/WG4 on Part 3, Spatial of SQL Multimedia and Application Packages
 - d. Publications: ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC32/WG4, ISO/IEC IS 13249-3(E)

Project 987-D: Spatial Data Transfer
ANSI INCITS 320:1998, Information Technology - Spatial Data Transfer
Standard is the official designation.

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Project 1411-D: Spatial Data Standard for Facilities, Infrastructure, and Environment (SDSFIE)
INCITS 353:2001, Title standard Information Technology - Geographic information systems -
Spatial Data Standards for Facilities, Infrastructure, and Environment (SDSFIE)

Project: 90-M X3.38 – 1988 Identification of the States, the District of Columbia, and the
Outlying Areas of the U.S. for Information Interchange [Revised 02/14/01]

Project: 91-M X3.31 – 1988 Structure for Identification of the Counties and County Equivalents of
the U.S. and its Outlying and Associated Areas for Information Interchange [recommended for
revision]

Project: 92-M X3.47-1988 [R2000] Structure for the Identification of Named Populated Places,
Primary County Divisions and other Entities of the U.S. and Its Outlying Areas for Information
Interchange

Project: 93-M X3.61-1986 [R1997] Representation of Geographic Point Locations for Information
Interchange

Project: 510-M X3.145-1986 [R1997] Codes for Identification of Hydrologic Units in the U.S. and
the Caribbean (Outlying) Areas

Geospatial Objects - Closing

Spatial Data Quality - Closing

8. Geospatial One-Stop –

Framework standards will comply with the ISO Geographic information series of standards being developed through ISO Technical Committee 211, Geographic Information/Geomatics, and ANSI standards, wherever applicable.

Additionally, other standardization activities have yielded feature catalogs, conceptual data models, and data content standards for Framework data themes. These activities include the Federal Geographic Data committee (FGDC), NATO's Digital Geographic Information Working Group (DGIWG), the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO), and U.S. Federal, State, local agencies, and other private and public sector organizations. These standards and data models will be considered as input into this project.

9. Liaison Activities -

- incits H2, Database
- incits L8, Metadata
- Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) - Data Content Standards
- FIG – Location Services
- incits H3 - Computer Graphics & Image Processing
- Open Gis Consortium (OGC)

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International GIS Standards

The technical committee 211 (TC 211) of the International Organizations for Standardization (ISO) has been developing standardization in the field of digital geographic information, aiming to establish a structured set of standards for information concerning objects or phenomena that are directly or indirectly associated with a location relative to the Earth. These standards may specify, for geographic information, methods, tools and services for data management (including definition and description), acquiring, processing, analyzing, accessing, presenting and transferring such data in digital/ electronic form among different users, systems and locations, linking to appropriate standards for information technology and data where possible, and provide a framework for the development of sector-specific applications using geographic data.

ISO/TC 211 has been developing a series of GIS standards majority of which will be adopted as International Standards by the end 2003. The principal sources of geographic information standards in the United States are the Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) and the Geographic Information Systems subcommittee of the InterNational Committee for Information Technology Standards (INCITS/L1).

Internal Liaisons

- ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 2 Coded character sets
- ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 24 Computer graphics and image processing
- ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 32 Data Management and Interchange
- ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 35 User interfaces
- ISO/TC 20 /SC 13 Space data and information transfer systems
- ISO/TC 23/SC 19 Agricultural electronics
- ISO/TC 46/WG 2 - Coding of country names and related entities
- ISO/TC 82 Mining
- ISO/TC 130 Graphic Technology
- ISO/TC 184/SC 4 Industrial data and global manufacturing languages (WG3 CSL, Express, STEP)
- ISO/TC 204 Transport Information and Control Systems (WG3 GDF)

External Liaisons

- CEOS, Committee on Earth Observation Satellites
- DGIWG, Digital Geographic Information Working Group
- EPSG, European Petroleum Survey Group
- FIG, International Federation of Surveyors
- GSDI, Global Spatial Data Infrastructure
- IAG, International Association of Geodesy
- ICA, International Cartographic Association
- ICAO, International Civil Aviation Organization
- IEEE Geoscience and Remote Sensing Society
- IHB, International Hydrographic Bureau
- ISCGM, International Steering Committee for Global Mapping
- ISPRS, International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing
- JRC, Joint Research Centre, European Commission
- OGC, Open GIS Consortium, Incorporated
- PCGIAP, The Permanent Committee on GIS Infrastructure for Asia and the Pacific
- UN Economic Commission for Europe, Statistical Division
- UNGIWG, United Nations Geographic Information Working Group
- WMO, World Meteorological Organization
- PC IDEA, Permanent Committee on Spatial Data Infrastructure for the Americas
- SCAR, Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research
- UNGEGN, United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names

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- CEN/TC 287, Geographic information

ISO/TC 211 Geographic Information Program

19101 (15046-1): Geographic information - Reference model	19123 (17753): Geographic information - Schema for coverage geometry and functions
19102 (15046-2): Geographic information - Overview (Project deleted, see resolution 192 - Adelaide)	19124 (17754): Geographic information - Imagery and gridded data components
19103 (15046-3): Geographic information - Conceptual schema language	19125-1: Geographic information - Simple feature access - Part 1: Common architecture
19104 (15046-4): Geographic information - Terminology	19125-2: Geographic information - Simple feature access - Part 2: SQL option
19105 (15046-5): Geographic information - Conformance and testing	19125-3: Geographic information - Simple feature access - Part 3: COM/OLE option
19106 (15046-6): Geographic information - Profiles	19126: Geographic information - Profile - FACC Data Dictionary
19107 (15046-7): Geographic information - Spatial schema	19127: Geographic information - Geodetic codes and parameters
19108 (15046-8): Geographic information - Temporal schema	19128: Geographic information - Web Map server interface
19109 (15046-9): Geographic information - Rules for application schema	19129: Geographic information - Imagery, gridded and coverage data framework
19110 (15046-10): Geographic information - Feature cataloguing methodology	19130: Geographic information - Sensor and data models for imagery and gridded data
19111 (15046-11): Geographic information - Spatial referencing by coordinates	19131: Geographic information - Data product specifications
19112 (15046-12): Geographic information - Spatial referencing by geographic identifiers	19132: Geographic information - Location based services possible standards
19113 (15046-13): Geographic information - Quality principles	19133: Geographic information - Location based services tracking and navigation
19114 (15046-14): Geographic information - Quality evaluation procedures	19134: Geographic information - Multimodal location based services for routing and navigation
19115 (15046-15): Geographic information - Metadata	19135: Geographic information - Procedures for registration of geographical information items
19116 (15046-16): Geographic information - Positioning services	19136: Geographic information - Geography Markup Language (GML)
19117 (15046-17): Geographic information - Portrayal	19137: Geographic information - Generally used profiles of the spatial schema and of similar important other schemas
19118 (15046-18): Geographic information - : Encoding	19138: Geographic information - Data quality measures
19119 (15046-19): Geographic information - Services	19139: Geographic information - Metadata - Implementation specifications
19120 (15854): Geographic information - Functional standards	19140: Geographic information - Amendment to the ISO 191** Geographic information series of standards for harmonization and enhancements
19120/Amedmend 1: Geographic information - Functional standards - Amendment 1	
19121 (16569): Geographic information - Imagery and gridded data	6709: Standard representation of latitude, longitude, and altitude for geographic point locations.
19122 (16822): Geographic information/Geomatics - Qualifications and Certification of Personnel	

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The Federal Geographic Data Committee was established in 1990 to coordinate the production of geographic information among Federal agencies. It began developing standards as a step towards accomplishing this goal. The FGDC has completed work on 19 standards, of which the most widely used is the, and has 18 standards currently in work. Since 1990, the goal of the FGDC has evolved toward the establishment of a National Spatial data Infrastructure. At the same time, Federal standardization policy has changed in favor of the use of non-government standards. As a result, the FGDC and several of its member agencies are actively involved in the work of INCITS/L1.

Status of FGDC Standards

Final Stage - FGDC Endorsed Standards

Review Stage

Draft Stage

Proposal Stage

Final Stage - FGDC Endorsed Standards

Content Standard for Digital Geospatial Metadata (version 2.0),
FGDC-STD-001-1998

Content Standard for Digital Geospatial Metadata, Part 1: Biological Data
Profile, FGDC-STD-001.1-1999

Metadata Profile for Shoreline Data, FGDC-STD-001.2-2001

Spatial Data Transfer Standard (SDTS), FGDC-STD-002
(a modified version was adopted as ANSI NCITS 320:1998)

Spatial Data Transfer Standard (SDTS), Part 5: Raster Profile and
Extensions, FGDC-STD-002.5

Spatial Data Transfer Standard (SDTS), Part 6: Point Profile,
FGDC-STD-002.6

SDTS Part 7: Computer-Aided Design and Drafting (CADD) Profile,
FGDC-STD-002.7-2000

Cadastral Data Content Standard, FGDC-STD-003

Classification of Wetlands and Deepwater Habitats of the United States,
FGDC-STD-004

Vegetation Classification Standard, FGDC-STD-005

Soil Geographic Data Standard, FGDC-STD-006

Geospatial Positioning Accuracy Standard, Part 1, Reporting Methodology,
FGDC-STD-007.1-1998

Geospatial Positioning Accuracy Standard, Part 2, Geodetic Control
Networks, FGDC-STD-007.2-1998

Geospatial Positioning Accuracy Standard, Part 3, National Standard for
Spatial Data Accuracy, FGDC-STD-007.3-1998

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Geospatial Positioning Accuracy Standard, Part 4: Architecture,
Engineering Construction and Facilities Management,
FGDC-STD-007.4-2002

Content Standard for Digital Orthoimagery, FGDC-STD-008-1999

Content Standard for Remote Sensing Swath Data, FGDC-STD-009-1999

Utilities Data Content Standard, FGDC-STD-010-2000

U.S. National Grid, FGDC-STD-011-2001

Content Standard for Digital Geospatial Metadata: Extensions for Remote
Sensing Metadata, FGDC-STD-012-2002

Review Stage

Completed Public Review

Address Content Standard

Content Standard for Framework Land Elevation Data

Digital Cartographic Standard for Geologic Map Symbolization

Facility ID Data Standard

Geospatial Positioning Accuracy Standard, Part 5: Standard for
Hydrographic Surveys and Nautical Charts

Hydrographic Data Content Standard for Coastal and Inland Waterways

NSDI Framework Transportation Identification Standard

Out for Public Review

Note: "(month date, year)" indicates closing date for public review.

In Review by SWG Prior to Public Review

Draft Stage

Earth Cover Classification System

Encoding Standard for Geospatial Metadata

Geologic Data Model

Governmental Unit Boundary Data Content Standard

Biological Nomenclature and Taxonomy Data Standard

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Proposal Stage

FGDC Profile(s) of ISO 19115, Geographic information - Metadata - suspended. Work underway by NCITS L1 to develop a national metadata standard.

Federal Standards for Delineation of Hydrologic Unit Boundaries

National Hydrography Framework Geospatial Data Content Standard

National Standards for the Floristic Levels of Vegetation Classification in the United States: Associations and Alliances

Revisions to the National Standards for the Physiognomic Levels of Vegetation Classification in the United States: Federal Geographic Data Committee Vegetation Classification Standards, FGDC-STD-005, October 1997

Riparian Mapping Standard

Discontinued from FGDC Standards Process
(by notice of FGDC Subcommittee or Working Group)

Metadata Profile for Cultural and Demographic Data (draft stage)

Environmental Hazards Geospatial Data Content Standard (draft stage)

Transportation Data Content Standard (proposal stage)